

File: LEGIS. GEN.

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS

Bill No. S. 734 Report No. \_\_\_\_\_ Companion No. \_\_\_\_\_

Title: U.S. Information Agency Authorization Act, Fiscal Years '84 & '85

Subject: (see title)

Amends. various miscellaneous amendments

Contacts: \_\_\_\_\_

Conclusion: ☒ No Agency objection

☐ Agency objection and/or needs amendment

Analysis: There is nothing in this bill to which the Agency should object.

STAT

3/22/83

21 MAR 1983

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II

98TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 734

To authorize appropriations for the United States Information Agency to carry out in fiscal years 1984 and 1985 international communication and educational and cultural exchange programs, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 9 (legislative day, MARCH 7), 1983

~~Mr. PARRY~~ (by request) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

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## A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the United States Information Agency to carry out in fiscal years 1984 and 1985 international communication and educational and cultural exchange programs, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 TITLE II—UNITED STATES INFORMATION

4 AGENCY

5 SHORT TITLE

6 SEC. 201. This title may be cited as the “**United States**”  
7 **Information Agency Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984**  
8 **and 1985**.”

## 1                   AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS

2           SEC. 202. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated  
3   for the United States Information Agency \$711,427,000 for  
4   the fiscal year 1984 and \$871,039,000 for the fiscal year  
5   1985 to carry out international information, educational, cul-  
6   tural, and exchange programs under the United States Infor-  
7   mation and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, the Mutual  
8   Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, and Reor-  
9   ganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1977, and other purposes  
10  authorized by law. Of the amounts authorized, not to exceed  
11  \$47,959,000 for the fiscal year 1984 and \$179,426,000 for  
12  the fiscal year 1985 are authorized to remain available until  
13  appropriated and expended for the acquisition and construc-  
14  tion of radio facilities.

15          (b) Section 302 of the United States Information  
16  Agency Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1982 and 1983, is  
17  amended by striking out "\$559,000,000 for the fiscal year  
18  1983" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$579,000,000 for the  
19  fiscal year 1983".

20          (c) The United States Information Agency Authoriza-  
21  tion Act, Fiscal Years 1982 and 1983, is amended by strik-  
22  ing out the language appearing under section 305(c) and in-  
23  serting in lieu thereof:

24          “(c) The amount obligated by the United States Infor-  
25  mation agency in each fiscal year after fiscal year 1982 for

1 grants for exchange of persons activities shall equal or exceed  
2 (in terms of constant dollars) the amount obligated for such  
3 grants for fiscal year 1982.”.

4 CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES

5 SEC. 203. (a) Section 501 of the United States Informa-  
6 tion and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C.  
7 1461) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following  
8 sentence: “Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, such in-  
9 formation, whether or not prepared for dissemination abroad,  
10 may also be made available within the United States, its ter-  
11 ritories, and possessions to foreign diplomatic and consular  
12 officials accredited to the United States Government or to the  
13 United Nations or any of its related organizations: *Provided*,  
14 That no such official shall make or allow the further dissemi-  
15 nation of such information within the United States, its terri-  
16 tories, or possessions except to other foreign diplomatic or  
17 consular officials in the above-described categories.”.

18 (b) Section 804 of the United States Information and  
19 Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1474) is  
20 amended by deleting the word “and” at the end of paragraph  
21 (19), deleting the period and inserting a semicolon and the  
22 word “and” at the end of paragraph (20), and adding a new  
23 paragraph (21) reading as follows:

24 “(21) notwithstanding section 529 of title 31 and  
25 section 5536 of title 5 of the United States Code,

1 grant to each of no more than five employees assigned  
2 to duty in New York, New York, and required because  
3 of important representational responsibilities to live in  
4 the extraordinarily high-rent area immediately sur-  
5 rounding the headquarters of the United Nations in  
6 New York, New York, an allowance of the same kind  
7 and amount provided to employees of the staff of the  
8 United States Mission to the United Nations pursuant  
9 to section 9(1) of the United Nations Participation Act  
10 of 1945 (22 U.S.C. 287e-1(1)).”.

11 (c) Section 801(3) of the United States Information and  
12 Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1471(3)) is  
13 amended to read in part as follows:

14 “(3) whenever necessary in carrying out title V of  
15 this Act, to purchase, rent, construct, improve, main-  
16 tain, and operate facilities for radio transmission and  
17 reception, including the leasing of associated real prop-  
18 erty (either within or outside the United States) for pe-  
19 riods not to exceed twenty-five years, or for longer pe-  
20 riods if provided for by an appropriation Act;”.

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## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

March 9, 1983

each year. Over the years it has become more difficult for these families to buy a house. I do not want to see these low- and middle-income families priced out of the market, and that may happen if this program is not extended.

This administration has made encouraging progress. Inflation is under control and interest rates are dropping. However, there is still a vital need for mortgage revenue bonds. Deregulation of the financial institutions has raised questions of how the mortgage credit needs, especially for low- and moderate-housing, will be met in the 1980's.

I like this program's approach because it is based on New Federalism principles. It allows every State to respond to its particular housing demands. I think this is the best way to address housing needs.

In my own State of New Mexico the program has provided mortgages for close to 12,000 home buyers since the New Mexico Housing Authority was created in 1975. The Finance Authority in New Mexico is completely self-sufficient in that no tax moneys are appropriated to sustain its operations. Since the authority's establishment, eight bond issues have been sold, totaling over one-half billion dollars. Of this amount, roughly \$524 million has gone to deserving homeowners to finance approximately 12,000 mortgages at interest rates of 7.5 to 12.12 percent. Banks, savings and loans and mortgage bankers throughout the State have participated by disbursing the authority's funds through their branches.

The average income for families receiving a mortgage under the New Mexico program is \$23,582 and the average purchase price for existing homes is \$42,391 and \$48,916 for new homes. The program has provided 3,298 new jobs in my State and generated \$25,541,733 in tax revenues based on figures provided by the Mortgage Finance Authority in New Mexico.

I realize that there are before Congress several housing industry aid programs that will have significant direct budget impact, an extension of the mortgage bond authority to 1990 would have a negligible effect on the budget.

The extension is good for housing and, what is good for the housing industry is good for the country. I urge other Senators to cosponsor this bill, get it passed, and let the Mortgage Finance Authorities get on with providing the services we designed them to perform.●

By Mr. PERCY (by request):

S. 734. A bill to authorize appropriations for the U.S. Information Agency to carry out in fiscal years 1984 and 1985 international communication and educational and cultural exchange programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 1984 AND 1985

● Mr. PERCY. Mr. President, by request, I introduce for appropriate reference a bill to authorize appropriations for the U.S. Information Agency for fiscal years 1984 and 1985.

This legislation has been requested by USIA and I am introducing the proposed legislation in order that there may be a specific bill to which Members of the Senate and the public may direct their attention and comments.

~~I reserve my right to support or oppose this bill, as well as any suggested amendments to it, when the matter is considered by the Committee on Foreign Relations.~~

I ask unanimous consent that the bill be printed in the RECORD at this point, together with a section-by-section analysis of the bill and the letter from the Director of the U.S. Information Agency to the President of the Senate dated March 1, 1983.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 734

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**TITLE II—UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY**

**SHORT TITLE**

Sec. 201. This title may be cited as the "United States Information Agency Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1984 and 1985."

**AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**

Sec. 202. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated for the United States Information Agency \$711,427,000 for the fiscal year 1984 and \$871,039,000 for the fiscal year 1985 to carry out international information, educational, cultural, and exchange programs under the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, and Reorganization Plan Number 2, of 1977, and other purposes authorized by law. Of the amounts authorized, not to exceed \$47,959,000 for the fiscal year 1984 and \$179,426,000 for the fiscal year 1985 are authorized to remain available until appropriated and expended for the acquisition and construction of radio facilities.

Sec. 202(b). Section 302 of the United States Information Agency Authorization Act, fiscal years 1982 and 1983 is amended by striking out "\$559,000,000 for the fiscal year 1983" and inserting in lieu thereof "\$579,000,000 for the fiscal year 1983."

Sec. 202(c). The United States Information Agency Authorization Act, fiscal years 1982 and 1983 is amended by striking out the language appearing under section 305(c) and inserting in lieu thereof:

"(c). The amount obligated by the United States Information Agency in each fiscal year after fiscal year 1982 for grants for exchange of persons activities shall equal or exceed (in terms of constant dollars) the amount obligated for such grants for fiscal year 1982."

**CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES**

Sec. 203(a). Section 501 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1461) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence:

"Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, such information, whether or not pre-

pared for dissemination abroad, may also be made available, within the United States, its territories, and possessions to foreign diplomatic and consular officials accredited to the United States Government or to the United Nations or any of its related organizations; provided that no such official shall make or allow the further dissemination of such information within the United States, its territories, or possessions except to other foreign diplomatic or consular officials in the above-described categories."

Sec. 203(b). Section 804 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1474) is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of paragraph (19), deleting the period and inserting a semicolon and the word "and" at the end of paragraph (20), and adding a new paragraph (21) reading as follows:

"(21) notwithstanding section 529 of title 31 and section 5536 of title 5 of the United States Code, grant to each of no more than five employees assigned to duty in New York, New York, and required because of important representational responsibilities to live in the extraordinarily high-rent area immediately surrounding the headquarters of the United Nations in New York, New York, an allowance of the same kind and amount provided to employees of the staff of the United States Mission to the United Nations pursuant to section 9(1) of the United Nations Participation Act of 1945 (22 U.S.C. 287e-1(1))."

Sec. 203(c). Section 801(3) of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948 (22 U.S.C. 1471(3)) is amended to read in part as follows:

"(3) whenever necessary in carrying out title V of this Act, to purchase, rent, construct, improve, maintain, and operate facilities for radio transmission and reception, including the leasing of associated real property (either within or outside the United States) for periods not to exceed twenty-five years, or for longer periods if provided for by an appropriation Act."

**SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS**

**AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**

Section 202(a)—*Authorization of appropriations for the fiscal years 1984 and 1985*

This section provides a general authorization of appropriations for the United States Information Agency (USIA) in accordance with the provisions of Section 701(a) of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1476(a)). The proposed authorization will enable the Agency to carry out international communication, educational, cultural and exchange programs under the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended (the "Smith-Mundt Act"); the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended (the "Fulbright-Hays Act"); and Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1977. This legislation is submitted in accordance with the provisions of Section 607 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-344).

The last sentence of the proposed section would permit FY 1984 and 1985 funds for acquisition and construction of radio facilities to remain authorized until appropriated and expended. Thus, projects and funds authorized therefor in this act will remain in effect even if appropriations are delayed. This will save time and effort on the part of the executive and legislative branches.

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March 9, 1983

## CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE

**Section 202(b)—Amendment of fiscal year 1983 authorization**

This section would add \$20 million to the FY 1983 authorization level for USIA. The added funds are requested to cover a supplemental appropriation that is required to launch a long-term, positive program by the United States to advocate the principles of democracy, support those people and institutions committed to democratic development, build and reinforce bonds based on shared values between people and nations, and combat through the active interchange of ideas and vigorous democratic institutions the spread of totalitarianism.

**Section 202(c)—Increase of funds for exchange of persons**

Section 305(c) of the United States Information Agency Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 1982 and 1983 mandated the doubling of the exchange of persons programs by fiscal year 1982. However, overall budget constraints and competing program priorities render that requirement impractical. As the President noted when he signed the legislation, adjustments are necessary. This section would remove the doubling requirement but guarantee that the fiscal year 1982 exchange of persons program level would be maintained or enhanced in the future. The fiscal year 1984 budget includes a sizable increase in the exchange of persons programs.

**CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITIES****Section 203(a)—Dissemination of agency information to diplomats in the United States**

The principal purpose of this proposal is to remove what appears to be a prohibition against the Agency's dissemination to foreign diplomatic and consular officials in the United States of information of the type prepared by the Agency for dissemination abroad.

We believe that this prohibition, although apparently called for by the letter of present Section 501 of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, was perhaps not intended by Congress to apply to such foreign officials. In this connection, we wish to point out that the officials involved are key representatives of the very foreign governments and people whom the Agency's information programs are designed to reach. Therefore, we do not feel that they should be denied access to such information merely because they are present in this country.

An incidental purpose and corollary of the proposal is to permit Agency representatives to keep the same foreign officials apprised of information about the United States, its people, and its policies even though the information was not prepared for dissemination abroad. It is contemplated that this type of activity would be carried out through such means as seminars, lectures and similar functions.

**Section 203(b)—Supplemental allowances for agency personnel stationed in New York City**

This proposal would permit the Agency to provide to not more than five employees stationed in New York City the same kinds of amounts of supplemental allowances for quarters and utilities to which similarly situated employees of the staff of the United States Mission to the United Nations are presently entitled.

Certain senior employees of the Agency assigned to our Foreign Press Center in New York City are expected to conduct representational activities with foreign correspondents covering the United Nations and U.S. Government matters that have foreign policy implications. These representational

activities require the employees to obtain housing in the high-rent area of New York City near the headquarters of the United Nations. At the present time, these Agency employees, unlike certain employees of the staff of the United States Mission to the United Nation, must personally bear a substantial part of the extraordinarily high rents for the housing that they occupy. As a result, married employees frequently decline assignments in New York City because of the financial hardships involved, and the Agency is thus often hampered in its efforts to select able employees for such assignments.

**Section 203(c)—Increased leasing authority for radio facilities**

The only new authority provided by this proposal would be to enable the Agency to enter into leases for radio facilities for periods not exceeding twenty-five years (instead of the present maximum of ten years) without having to seek and obtain special authorizing language in our annual appropriation Acts.

The existing ten-year restriction poses a substantial handicap to the Agency by limiting our flexibility in negotiating leases, particularly with foreign governments. This relatively short lease period also tends to produce episodes of long-term instability in Agency relations with foreign host countries and to inhibit the Agency's planning for sizable capital investment in leased properties.

It has been suggested that there is enough lead time before the commencement of lease negotiations to have inserted in an appropriation Act specific authorization for a leasehold in excess of ten years.

However, the parameters of negotiations often will not begin to jell until the time has passed for Congress to enact the necessary authorization. In this connection, we have in the last two years sought new or renewed leases for six of our VOA facilities. Delays in the enactment of the necessary appropriation Act language have caused us problems and concern. Last year, for example, it was necessary for Congress to include in the Urgent Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1982, special language to meet our lease negotiating needs in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean Area and Europe.

We would like to emphasize that required Congressional oversight of each extended lease project entered into under this proposed amendment would be made possible by our presentation of planned leases in our regular budget or reprogramming requests to the relevant Congressional committees.

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY,  
Washington, D.C. March 1, 1983.

HON. GEORGE BUSH,  
President of the Senate,  
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: There is transmitted herewith proposed language to authorize the U.S. Information Agency to carry out international communication and educational and cultural exchange programs. These activities are mandated by the United States Information Exchange Act of 1948, as amended, and Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1977. The authorization of our appropriations is required by Section 701(a) of the United States Information and Educational Exchange Act of 1948, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1476(a)).

The legislation also proposes to amend some of the provisions of the Agency's basic enabling authorities. An analysis explaining the proposed legislation is enclosed.

The Office of Management and Budget has informed us that there is no objection to the presentation of this proposed legisla-

tion and that its enactment would be in accord with the programs of the President.  
Sincerely,

CHARLES Z. WICK,  
Director.●

By Mr. LONG:

S. 735. A bill to provide a special antirecession increase in fiscal year 1983 allotments under the State and Local Fiscal Assistance Act to aid local units of government in providing for increased employment opportunities; to the Committee on Finance.

**ANTIRECESSION INCREASE IN STATE AND LOCAL ASSISTANCE**

Mr. LONG. Mr. President, most issues have at least two sides. We spend much of our time and effort here debating the different sides of issues.

But sometimes we face situations about which there can be no debate. The current recession is such a situation. This country is in a recession. Millions of Americans who ordinarily work, who want to work, who need to work, cannot work. They cannot work because the jobs are not there.

We can debate what caused this recession. We can debate what will cure it. We can debate whether a recovery has begun. We can debate how strong that recovery will be.

But we cannot debate the fact that right now we are still in a recession. Right now jobs are needed and needed badly. They are needed by over 11 million Americans.

This is a situation which demands our attention. It demands that we come up with a solution which can give relief promptly.

Many thoughtful proposals to provide more jobs are being considered in this Congress. Some of them may be quite meritorious; we certainly need to look at them. But I am worried that many of the proposals now being developed may prove to be "too little—too late." It will not help our present situation even if they should prove to be "too much—too late."

We have at hand a ready tool for providing jobs. It is the general revenue-sharing program for local governments. Every 3 months, a check is mailed out to each local government throughout this land. These local governments have many useful projects on which they could put people to work if we increase the amount of that revenue-sharing check.

We are probably too late to increase the check which goes out in April, but we have ample time to provide for an increase in the July check. I have no doubt that every one of these localities can think of more projects to employ people on than we are likely to provide the funds for. But if any of them have not yet thought of these projects, I am quite sure they will do so by July if we act now to provide an increase.

I am today introducing legislation to increase the local revenue-sharing grants this year. My bill provides for a 50-percent increase in the fiscal year